A Special Environmental Education Symposium Update

WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHT: CHIMP HAVEN

Attending the Symposium in Shreveport this year presents educators with a unique opportunity: a workshop and tour at the National Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Chimp Haven.

Established in 1995, Chimp Haven set its sights on constructing a chimpanzee sanctuary where the residents could live in large social groups in spacious, outdoor habitats. Impressed with Chimp Haven's vision and expertise, the government selected the organization in September 2002 to operate the National Chimpanzee Sanctuary System. This initiative was a result of passage of the CHIMP Act that was signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 2000 and is overseen by the National Institutes of Health.

Chimp Haven's construction began in May 2003 on 200 acres of pristine forest, donated by the local citizens of



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"Cody" copyright chimphaven.org

Caddo Parish, Louisiana. Chimp Haven's facility includes an interconnected network of bedrooms, outdoor courtyard and play yards, and large, forested habitats up to five acres.

Chimp Haven's Andrea Falcetto, Education Specialist and Amy Fultz, Director of Behavior will offer insight on chimp diet and behavior, discuss threats to chimp populations and lead educational

activities that educators can bring back to their own students. Participants will also tour the grounds and have the chance to observe some of the facility's resident animals.

Space is limited, and seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Register for the conference at http:// www.wlf.louisiana.gov/louisiana-environmental-education-symposium.

Visit the symposium website at http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/louisiana-environmental-education-symposium.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The conference will be held on February 21-22, 2013 at the Shreveport Convention Center, 400 Caddo St, Shreveport. The concurrent session portion of the symposium will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2014. We will offer 55 minute sessions in 4 time slots from 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. This year we want to place emphasis on the concepts of watersheds, preserving water quality, and managing land to reduce impact on our aquatic resources. The theme for this upcoming conference, therefore, is "Watersheds: From My Back Yard to the Ocean."

Although we encourage a watershed tie, it is not a requirement for proposals. Proposals can demonstrate hands-on activities, feature novel lessons, or create an awareness of exemplary programs. Handouts, lesson plans with benchmarks, and/or related resource materials are strongly encouraged.

Room arrangements will be classroom style. We will have computer/projector setups for those of you who need them so that you will only need to bring your electronic information on a jump drive. We would also like for you to provide us with an electronic version of your information so that we can post it on our website after the conference.

The deadline for presenter proposals is **DECEMBER 16, 2013**, but earlier submissions are greatly appreciated. We will notify everyone of acceptance or decline as soon as possible thereafter.

If your proposal is chosen, the lead presenter will have the regular conference registration fee waived. Louisiana Environmental Education Association (LEEA) dues cannot be waived, however. Additional presenters will need to register and pay the appropriate registration fees.

If your proposal is not chosen, please know that we are incredibly grateful for your submission. We try to have as much variety in grade levels, session types, and subject matter as possible in a finite set of time slots. Please plan on joining us as a participant instead and submit a new proposal next year.

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

REGISTRATION: Exhibitor registration includes symposium registration for one person, Friday evening social mixer, Saturday continental breakfast, and Saturday lunch. Exhibit space will consist of one 8 foot draped table, two chairs, and Internet access.

Additional booth space, tables, electricity, and registrations are available at an extra charge. Please see your registration form for pricing information. In order to insure a table and recognition in the program, the postmark deadline for booth registration is December 16, 2013. All exhibitor registration forms are to be sent to:

Venise Ortego, LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, 5652 HWY 182, Opelousas, LA 70570

SET-UP: Exhibitor set-up will take place on Friday, February 21, 2014, between 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. There will be an informal social to showcase the exhibits on Friday evening from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The exhibits will be open during this reception and from 7:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2014. Exhibitors are asked not to dismantle booths before 12:15 p.m. on Saturday.

Find more presenter and exhibitor information, and registration forms, at http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/louisiana-environmental-education-symposium.

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